

# CROP REPORT



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PRESS RELEASE

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## **Winter wheat down 9 percent from last month**

Based on conditions as of August 1, Oregon's winter wheat production is estimated at 45.6 million bushels, according to the Oregon Agricultural Statistics Service. This is down 9 percent from the July 1 forecast but 57 percent above the 2002 crop. Winter wheat yields are expected to average 48 bushels per acre. This is up 7 bushels from 2002. Dry, hot conditions reduced yields. The Pacific Northwest (Idaho, Oregon, and Washington) winter wheat production is forecast at 219.8 million bushels this year, down 2 percent from July but up 18 percent from last year. Washington's yield is forecast at 64 bushels per acre, up 5 bushels from last year. Idaho's forecasted yield is 82 bushels, up 3 bushels from the previous year. In Idaho, excellent irrigated winter wheat yields are expected to offset poor dryland yields. Nationally, the final winter wheat production forecast is 1.71 billion bushels. This is down slightly from last month but 50 percent above 2002. The U.S. yield is forecast at 46.9 bushels per acre, down 0.1 bushels from last month.

Oregon's other spring wheat production is estimated at 4.7 million bushels based on conditions as of August 1. This is down 14 percent from the July 1 forecast and down 4 percent from the 2002 crop. The decrease from 2002 is due to fewer acres for harvest. Other spring wheat yields are expected to average 35 bushels per acre. This is unchanged last year's final estimate. The Pacific Northwest other spring wheat production is forecast at 56.1 million bushels this year, down 6 percent from July 1 and down 13 percent from last year. Washington's yield forecast at 41.0 bushels per acre is down 2 bushels from the previous year. Idaho's forecasted yield is 63 bushels, down 2 bushels from 2002's final. Lack of moisture in the Pacific Northwest is dampening yield prospects, especially in dryland areas. Nationally, other spring wheat production is forecast at 492 million bushels, down 2 percent from last month but 25 percent above 2002. Acreage intended for harvest is unchanged from last month. The U.S. yield is forecast at 36.6 bushels per acre, 0.7 bushels less than July 1.

Oregon's barley crop is expected to produce 3.4 million bushels, down 8 percent from 2002. Yield is estimated to reach 57 bushels per acre, down 3 bushels from the July 1 forecast but up 7 bushels from last year's final. Acres for harvest decreased 14,000 acres from last year to 60,000 acres. Oat production is estimated at 3.5 million bushels, up 14 percent from the 2002 level. Yield is forecast at 100 bushels per acre, down 10 bushels from July 1, but up 12 bushels from last year's final.

The State's alfalfa hay crop is expected to total 2.1 million tons, 4 percent above last year. Yields are expected to average 4.6 tons per acre, up 7 percent from 2002. Production of other hay is forecast at 1.3 million tons, down 5 percent from the previous year. Sugarbeet production, at 276,000 tons, would be 8 percent less than 2002. Oregon hop growers expect to harvest 1,700 pounds per acre from 5,748 acres. Production of dry edible beans is expected to total 117,000 cwt., 25 percent below 2002. Estimated yield is down 230 pounds per acre to 1,500 pounds and harvest area is down 14 percent to 7,800 acres.

Oregon's 2003 apple production is forecast at 120 million pounds. The Pacific Northwest apple production is forecast at 5.1 billion pounds. Prune and plum production in Oregon is forecast at 3,700 tons, down from 8,000 tons last year. Bartlett pear production is forecast at 65,000 tons, up 12 percent from 2002. The three Pacific Coast States' (Oregon, California and Washington) production is estimated at 470,000 tons, up 5 percent from last year. Production of pears other than Bartletts in Oregon is forecast at 155,000 tons, up 10 percent from last year. The Pacific Coast States' production is estimated at 435,000 tons. Oregon grape production is forecast at 25,000 tons, up 14 percent from last year's final production of 22,000 tons.